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12-22-1967

### Truman Driggs Letter to Maynard Reynolds

University of Minnesota Morris

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December 22, 1967

Professor Maynard Reynolds, Chairman  
Senate Committee on Committees  
101B Pattee Hall  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Dear Professor Reynolds:

In general, my reaction to the proposed wording of the "All University Senate Handbook" is that it is not what its title indicates. Rather it is a handbook for the Twin Cities Campus Senate, which would sometimes call itself an all university senate by adding a few members from the other campuses. This fact has a particularly unfortunate effect on the committee structure. Thus a number of committees which quite clearly relate to affairs on only one campus are listed in the handbook and thus are by implication all university committees.

Many examples of this could be cited. I will mention only a few. The faculty Parking and Traffic Committee is one such. Presumably a majority of the members of that committee would be from the Twin Cities Campus. Would they wish to take the time and trouble to engage in continuing studies of the parking situation in Morris and Duluth in the kind of detail which would be essential to their being of service to those campuses? The same problem would exist for the Library Committee. The work of the present Library Committee on the Morris Campus is such as to cause service on that committee to be regarded as a major commitment of time and effort. If the Morris agenda and that of Duluth should be added to the work already being done by the present Twin Cities committee, I can envisage almost perpetual sessions of that committee. Much the same could be said for the Functions and Convocations Committee, the Space Allocation Committee, the Committee on Student Behavior, the Student Affairs Committee, the Judiciary Council, the Committee on Athletics, and others.

It seems rather clear that the adoption of the proposed committee structure would simply cause history to repeat itself. Many of the supposed all-University committees would in fact function for the Twin Cities alone. Thus both logic and necessity would cause the other campuses to create extra-legal de facto local structures and procedures of their own. We would then be back to the ambiguities which plague us today, and the handbook would not be describing reality at all.



I suggest that the Twin Cities Campus Senate and the committees which directly serve it should be clearly distinguished from the All University Senate and the committees which directly serve it. Such a distinction can best be attained by issuing a separate handbook for the All University Senate and its committees. Indeed the standing committees for the All University Senate should be relatively few:

1. Committee on Business and Rules
2. Committee on Committees
3. All University Extension Committee
4. Faculty Consultative Committee
5. Faculty Affairs Committee
6. Committee on Institutional Relationships
7. Judicial Committee.

Other committees should be organized on a campus basis. Each of these campus committees should, however, report regularly to the All University Senate Committee on Business and Rules. Whenever the Committee on Business and Rules or one of the campus committees itself should think that its work is taking it into areas of all university concern, an ad hoc all university committee made up of representatives of the appropriate committees from the various campuses should be formed to deal with the matter involved on a university-wide basis. Any report the all university committee should make would, of course, go to the All University Senate. If one of these ad hoc all university committees should find itself meeting frequently and regularly over a long period of time, it could propose to the All University Senate that it be made a standing committee of that body.

The faculties on each campus could organize themselves locally in such ways as best to serve their own situations and needs. In some cases this would mean an elected representative assembly; in others perhaps direct participation by the whole campus faculty in a legislative assembly. I do not think that the All University Senate Handbook should concern itself with the specifics of campus organizations, except perhaps to state that they must be representative of all faculty units (colleges, institutes, or other units) on a given campus. There might be some advantage in calling these campus faculty bodies "general assemblies" in order further to distinguish them from the All University Senate.

The All University Senate should be made up of representatives of campuses, with each campus providing a share of senators in proportion to the number of eligible faculty members on that campus. Thus the campus assemblies would represent colleges and other faculty units, and the All University Senate would represent campuses. This would preserve both the necessary autonomy for the campuses and a large measure of unity within the University as a whole. It would give due weight to sheer numbers, as the Twin Cities Campus would retain its present ratio of representatives, but it would also recognize to some extent the unique situation of each campus.

Sincerely,

Truman Driggs

cc: Dean Briggs

ss/OTD